

MAY 09 2007

PTO/SB/30 Revised (5/20/00)

Approved for use through 10/30/04 OMB 0851-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application  
filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/211,297
Filing Date	December 14, 1998
First Named Inventor	William J. Boyle
Group / Art Unit	1644
Examiner Name	Michael Edward Szperka
Attorney Docket No.	A-451M

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.  
**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.133 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provision of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14863 (Mar. 20, 2000), Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

**1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_


**2. Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Fees**

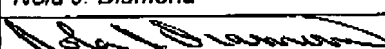
- The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
- a. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 01-0519
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) in the amount of \$790.00.
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_. If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a request therefor.
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT REQUIRED**

NAME (Print/Type)	Robert B. Winter	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	34,458
SIGNATURE		Date:	May 9, 2007

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

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PTO/SB/36 Revised (5/20/00)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/28) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term  
adjustment provision of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14665 (Mar. 20,  
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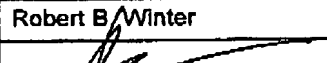
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